

South Dakota

OCTOBER CROP REPORT

News Release

October 10, 2003

FORECASTED PRODUCTION UP FOR SOYBEANS

SIOUX FALLS, October 10, 2003 -- Soybean production is forecast at 126.0 million bushels, up 4 percent from last month but 1 percent below last year. Yield, at 30 bushels per acre, is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 1 bushel from last year. Acres for harvest are forecast at 4.2 million, up 4 percent from the previous forecast (based on Farm Service Agency administrative information) and up 3 percent from last year.

South Dakota's October 1 corn production is forecast at 430.5 million bushels, unchanged from last month but still 42 percent above last year's drought-reduced level. Yield is forecast at 105 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August forecast but 10 bushels above last year. Acres to be harvested for grain are forecast at 4.10 million, up 28 percent from last year's drought-reduced acres.

Sorghum production is forecast at 7.8 million bushels, unchanged from last month's forecast but 155 percent above last year's drought-reduced level. Yield, at 52 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last month but 18 bushels above last year. Grain sorghum harvested acres, forecast at 150,000, are up 67 percent from last year.

All sunflower production is forecast at 499.0 million pounds, up 34 percent from last year. The estimated yield, at 1,000 pounds per acre, is up 131 pounds (15 percent) from last year. Harvested acres, at 499,000, are up 16 percent from last year and 9 percent from this year's June estimate, based on Farm Service Agency administrative information.

All hay production is forecast at 7.48 million tons, down 9 percent from the August forecast but up 56 percent from last year. The yield, at 1.66 tons per acre, is down 0.16 ton per acre from August. Harvested acres, at 4.5 million, are up 13 percent from last year. Alfalfa hay, with a forecasted production of 5.20 million tons, yielded 2.0 tons per acre from 2.6 million acres harvested. Other hay, with a forecasted production of 2.28 million tons, has a yield of 1.2 tons per acre from 1.9 million acres harvested.

Dry edible bean production is forecast at 27.2 million pounds for 2003. Producers plan to harvest 16,000 acres with a forecasted yield of 1,700 pounds per acre.

*For more information contact
Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-330-4235*